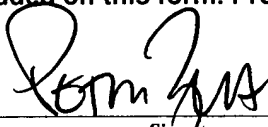

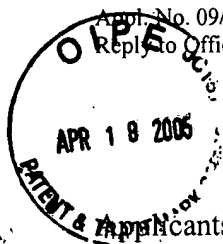


2182

TRANSMITTAL LETTER (General - Patent Pending)				Docket No. 115139-016	
In Re Application Of: Todd Steitle					
Application No. 09/877,626	Filing Date June 8, 2001	Examiner Niketa I. Patel	Customer No. 24573	Group Art Unit 2182	Confirmation No. 1797
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF INTERACTIVE NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGN					
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u></p> <p>Transmitted herewith is:</p> <p>Transmittal Letter in duplicate; Response to Restriction Requirement on 3 pages; and return receipt postcard.</p> <p>in the above identified application.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is attached.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 as described below.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.</p> <p>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div> _____ Signature Peter Zura (Reg. No. 48,196) Bell Boyd & Lloyd LLC P.O. Box 1135 Chicago, Illinois 60690 312.807.4208</div><div>Dated: April 15, 2005</div></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"><p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on</p><p>April 15, 2005</p><p>(Date)</p><p> _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence Heather Foster</p><p>_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</p></div> <div>CC:</div>					



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Todd Steitle
Appl. No.: 09/877,626
Conf. No.: 1797
Filed: June 8, 2001
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF INTERACTIVE NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGN
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Examiner: Niketa I Patel
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2005. The Office Action issued a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, stating that Applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-42, drawn to software running on multiple computing; classified in class 709, subclass 205.

Group II: Claims 43-61, drawn to configuring a network system by adding or removing components for the network; classified in class 709, subclass 221.

Applicant elect Group I, without traverse. The Office Action further indicated that, in the event Group I is elected, claims 1-42 (erroneously referred to as claims 1-12 in the Office Action) are further subject to an election of species for being drawn to more than a single species. The species, along with a listing of claims readable thereon, are listed as follows:

- Species I: the executing program comprising a web server (claims 2-11, 28, 31-42)
- Species II: the network system interfacing with a billing system (claim 12)
- Species III: the network system showing one of multiple views (claims 13-16)
- Species IV: the executing program comprising a database server (claims 17-27)
- Species V: configuring the network system comprising security configuration (claim 29)
- Species VI: configuring of network system comprising storage configuration (claim 30)

Applicants elect, with traverse, claims 2-11, 28 and 31-42, directed to Species I. Regarding the traverse, Applicant submit that Species II (claim 12) and IV-VI (claims 17-27, 29 and 30) should be grouped together with Species I, as the combination/subcombination disclosed in the claims can be examined without imposing a serious burden on the USPTO (see MPEP §803).

Regarding Species I, IV and VI, the generic claim is directed to a network system, wherein Species I, IV and VI respectively recite a web server, database server and storage configuration used in the network system. These elements are subcombinations that are used within the overall network recited in the generic claim. As such, they should be examined together.

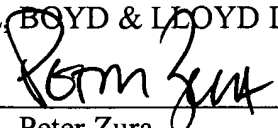
Regarding Species II, claim 12 recites the executing program sending information to a billing system upon completion of network system design. It should be apparent that the billing system is dependent on the combination of elements recited in claim 1. As such, claim 12 should be examined together with the generic combination.

Regarding Species V, claim 29 recites that the generic configuration of the network system comprises security configuration of the network system. Again, Applicant submits that the security configuration depends on the combination of elements recited in claim 1. As such, claim 29 should also be examined together with the generic combination.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 15, 2005